



03500.017583

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: )  
Ryoji Kusudo ) : Examiner: Hoang X. Ngo  
Application No.: 10/665,424 ) : Group Art Unit: 2852  
Filed: September 22, 2003 ) : Confirmation No. 6509  
For: Image Forming Apparatus, Process ) : February 14, 2005  
Cartridge, and Electrode Member :  
:

**Mail Stop Issue Fee**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Comment on Statement of Reasons for Allowance

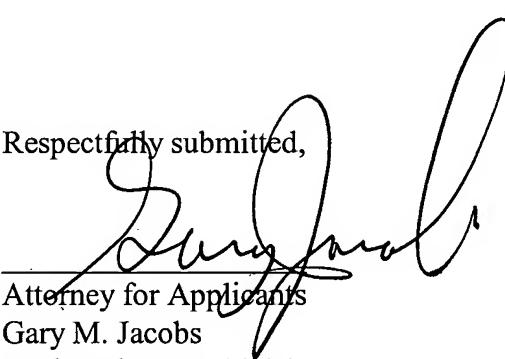
Sir:

The Statement of Reasons for Allowance accompanying the November 12, 2004 Notice of Allowability states that none of the prior art of record teaches “a process cartridge having an electrode member for supplying power from the image forming apparatus to the developing roller comprising a conductive substrate; a hole provided in the substrate having an end larger than the width; an elastic portion bent and raised along the hole contacting the electrode; a rib provided posited and along the end the hole; an engagement hole for mounting the electrode member to a bearing of the developing roller; and a contact portion making contact with the inner surface of the developing roller.”

But independent Claim 1 does not relate to a process cartridge, and independent Claims 1, 5, and 9 do not recite a rib provided "posited" the end of the hole. Nevertheless, these claims are allowable for the unique combination of features recited therein.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Attorney for Applicants  
Gary M. Jacobs  
Registration No. 28,861

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO  
30 Rockefeller Plaza  
New York, New York 10112-3801  
Facsimile: (212) 218-2200